

V. NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF BRIDGE 599

GAI evaluated Bridge 599 for its eligibility for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Because Bridge 599 is located within the Auburn Mills Historic District, GAI also evaluated the bridge as a contributing historic resource in the National Register-listed Auburn Mills Historic District.

GAI evaluated the National Register eligibility of Bridge 599 according to the guidelines contained in *National Register Bulletin 15-How to Apply the National Register Criteria of Evaluation*; the historic context for the Bridge 599 project area (Section IV); and the bridge's structural condition and integrity.

EVALUATION

GAI recommends that Bridge 599 does not possess the necessary architectural/ engineering significance and architectural integrity for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Bridge 599 is an undistinguished example of a common bridge type from this period, is in deteriorated condition, and has undergone numerous repairs over the years that have compromised its structural integrity. These repairs include patching of posts and abutments, the addition of a concrete slab to support the northeast abutment, and the use of sandbags at the southwest corner. These repairs have altered the original appearance of Bridge 599.

GAI recommends that Bridge 599 does not possess the historical significance and architectural integrity to be considered a contributing historic resource in the Auburn Mills Historic District. Built circa 1932, Bridge 599 does fall within the period of significance for the Auburn Mills Historic District. However, the bridge is a replacement of at least one, possibly more, previous bridges over this millrace and thus relates to only 20 years in the district's period of significance. It does not relate to the manufacturing or architecture themes that form the basis for the historic district's significance. Moreover, no evidence was obtained to indicate that National Vulcanized Fiber constructed Bridge 599 nor does the bridge relate to the history of the NVF company. The bridge is in deteriorated condition and lacks the necessary architectural integrity to contribute to the historic significance of the Auburn Mills Historic District. The repairs outlined above have compromised the historic appearance of the bridge and detract from the appearance of the historic district.